**GENERIC GRADE DESCRIPTORS**

**Grade A: Excellent**

###### Overall, a very impressive and excellent piece of work. Includes the majority of the following features:

* Demonstrates an understanding and achievement of the task which is outstanding relative to the course requirements, and is always relevant.
* Original perspective on the problems in question. Contextualization of sources and viewpoints and comprehensive evaluation of contributions. Insightful application of relevant theories in addressing the issues/questions/tasks.
* Use of wide range of relevant sources, which are integrated and critically evaluated.
* Well structured and organized with a clearly developed line of reasoning. Appropriate length.
* Referencing follows consistent academic conventions with all references fully and accurately cited.
* Clear, articulate style with accurate spelling, word choice and grammar. Target band level surpassed by 1.0

**Grade A-:An impressive piece of work that narrowly misses the requirements for an A grade**

**Grade B+**

**Grade B: Good**

###### Overall, a good and commendable piece of work. Includes the majority of the following features:

* Demonstrates understanding and achievement of the task that is significantly above the course requirements. Presentation of points and arguments relevant to the question or task.
* Sustained commentary on evidence and materials used. Inclusion of appropriate critical perspective. Use of theoretical models in a relevant way to address the issues/questions/tasks.
* Sound understanding of main sources of literature, well summarized and used in a critical and relevant way.
* Clear structure and presentation. Control of length.
* Generally consistent and accurate referencing.
* Generally accurate spelling, word choice and grammar. Target band level surpassed by 0.5.

**Grade C+**

**Grade C: Satisfactory**

###### Overall, a satisfactory piece of work. Includes the majority of the following features:

* Achievement that satisfactorily meets the course requirements. Understands main point of the task. Most points and arguments presented are relevant to the question or task.
* Adequate commentary on evidence and materials used. Some evidence of critical awareness. Use and understanding of theoretical models, but in a fairly pedestrian way.
* Adequate range of source material consulted. Clear understanding of the literature used.
* Good structure and presentation, minor problems in organization do not impede communication. Control of length
* Generally consistent referencing.
* Comprehensible spelling, word choice and grammar, inaccuracies do not impede meaning. Target band level achieved.

## Grade D: Marginal Pass

###### Overall, a bare pass. Includes the majority of the following features:

* Achievement that minimally meets the course requirements. Understanding of basic concepts and effort made to relate them to the question or task.
* Argument mainly descriptive points and/or points which requires greater substantiation. More development of ideas needed to sustain an argument. Identification of main issues, but little critical awareness.
* Some evidence of reading and understanding of the literature, but range and /or relevance very limited.
* Attempt made at coherent presentation, but ideas not well integrated. Length may be considerably off target.
* Some attempt at consistent referencing.
* Comprehensible spelling, word choice and grammar, although inaccuracies may sometimes impede meaning. Below the target band level.

Grade F: Failure

###### Overall, a very poor piece of work. Includes the majority of the following features:

* Achievement that does not meet the course requirements. Inadequate or misunderstanding of task. Purely descriptive account with little or no analysis.
* Irrelevant comments and/or assertions, which are not supported by meaningful evidence. Little evidence of integration of various sources to sustain an argument. Lack of any critical or appreciative framework.
* Few relevant sources used and/or little use of literature.
* Unstructured presentation and/or lack of coherence, which impedes understanding. Length problematic.
* Little or no attempt at consistent referencing.
* Major inaccuracies in grammar, word choice and spelling. Well below the target band level.